

REMARKS

Claims 6 and 7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 11 have been canceled. Thus, no new matter has been added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments:

(a) place the application in condition for allowance; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration; (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 6 and 7.

II. 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,477,347 to Redfield et al. (hereinafter "Redfield") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,775,225 to Tsuboyama et al. (hereinafter "Tsuboyama I"), and rejects claims 2 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Redfield in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,674,839 to Tsuboyama et al. (hereinafter "Tsuboyama II").

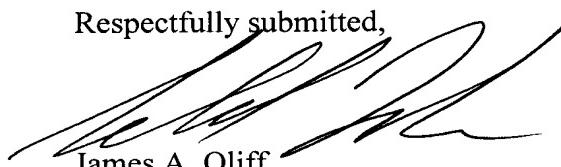
By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 11 have been canceled. Thus, only allowed claims 6 and 7 remain pending. Accordingly, the rejections have been rendered moot.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 26, 2009

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